

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Amendment and request further clarification of the Advisory Action. Specifically, the Advisory Action indicates that the 102(a) and 103(a) rejections have been overcome yet the Advisory Action provides no indication as to the status of the claims. Applicants respectfully request issuance of a new Office Action clarifying the status of the claims.

With regards to the new claims, the subject matter of new claims 19, 20 and 21 has already been examined as a result of the examination of claims 1, 16 and 18. Thus, no additional searching is required. Claim 16 has been changed to independent form. Support for new claim 19 can be found, for example, in claim 18. Support for new claim 20 can be found, for example, in claim 16. Support for new claim 21, can be found for example, in claim 1. No new matter is being added.

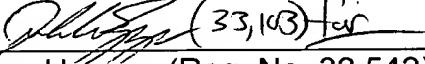
Moreover, if the 102(a) and 103(a) rejections have been withdrawn, then claim 1 is allowable. Thus, new claims 19, 20 and 21 will all depend from an allowable claim. Hence, adding new claims 19-21 will not involve any additional examination burden.

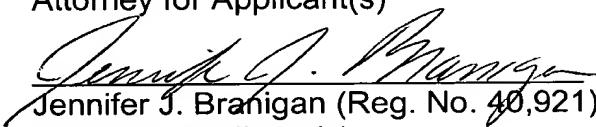
It is submitted that claims 1-10 and 15-21 are in condition for allowance. However, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any unresolved matters.

As for withdrawn claims 11-15, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to issue a Quayle action, thereby giving the applicants the opportunity to decide whether to file a petition.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,


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